Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	☐ Corrected ☐ Supplemental
LRB Number 21-0120/1	Introduction Number SB-024
Description prohibiting the out-of-home placement of a child	with a person with a record of a crime against a child
Fiscal Effect	
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Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DCF 2/8/2021

LRB Number 21-0120/1	Introduction Number	SB-024	Estimate Type	Original	
Description					
prohibiting the out-of-home placement of a child with a person with a record of a crime against a child					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill would have costs for the Department of Children and Families related to significant changes to policy, procedures, training, forms, and the eWiSACWIS statewide child welfare information system. This bill would also have costs for the Wisconsin Court System related to changes that would be required to the Consolidated Court Automation Program (CCAP) system to ensure agency child welfare staff have the ability to review the entirety of a charging history for an individual on the CCAP website. In the absence of CCAP modifications, agencies would be required to complete full background checks through the Department of Justice; costing \$15 per record check.

Changes to policies, procedures, and forms could be absorbed using existing staff resources.

At least five child welfare trainings would need to be updated at a total cost of approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000. In order to update our training program, the department may need to re-prioritize other training needs in order to accommodate the changes mandated by this bill.

The bill affects trainings for caseworkers, foster care licensing, Kinship Care, and subsidized guardianship. The cost of implementing training updates required by this bill can be absorbed using existing staff resources, as DCF requires trainings to be attended by state and local staff.

Child welfare licensing staff's workload would also be impacted, but the effects are indeterminate at this time, depending on the potential outcomes of newly available information. Costs may increase if the changes in the bill would result in the additional congregate care placements.

Finally, the bill would require changes to fundamental processing for a core function of the eWiSACWIS statewide child welfare information system. DCF technical staff estimate that these changes could cost approximately \$500,000. Implementing the necessary eWiSACWIS updates for this bill would require reprioritizing other system updates planned in the system release schedule.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications